IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: D. J. Munsil et al.   Attorney Docket No.: MSFT118149

Application No.: 10/090,416   Group Art Unit: 2185

Filed: March 1, 2002

Title: CUSTOM APPLICATION-COMPATIBILITY SYSTEMS AND LAYERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

May 14, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, to read as follows:

According to one aspect of the present invention, a method is provided for dynamically applying a custom application-compatibility fix. A request is received for launching an application. A determination is made as to whether or not there is a custom database for the requested application. The custom database contains an operating system-provided compatibility fix. If there is a custom database for the requested application, the operating system-provided compatibility fix in the custom database is added to a list of compatibility fixes for the requested application. The compatibility fixes on the list are applied to the requested application and the requested application is launched. In another aspect of the present invention, the custom database contains an operating system-provided compatibility mode. The operating system-provided compatibility mode contains a set of operating system-provided compatibility fixes. The set of operating system-provided compatibility fixes in the operating system-provided compatibility mode are added to the list of compatibility fixes for the requested application.

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